

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks. Claims 1, 3, 5, 7-13, and 15-24 remain pending. Claims 1, 3, 5, and 13 are independent.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicant appreciates that the Examiner indicates claims 1, 3, 5, 7-12¹ and 21-23 as being allowed. Applicant also appreciate that the Examiner indicates claims 16, 17 and 24 as including allowable subject matter.

§ 103 REJECTION

Claims 13, 15 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable Horino (Japanese Patent Publication No. 04-078274) and Eschbach (U.S. Patent No. 5,450,217); claim 18 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Horino, Eschbach and Inoue (Japanese Patent Publication No. 06-337932); and claim 19 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Horino, Eschbach and Matsukubo (US Publication No. 2002/0094122).

In this Reply, independent claim 13 is amended to include the feature of “adjusting a brightness of the image based on an average brightness of the image, wherein the average

¹ Claims 1-12 were indicated to be allowable on page 6 of the Final Office Action. Of these, claims 1, 3, 5 and 7-12 are pending.

brightness of the image is adjusted with a color saturation of the image data.” As such, claim 13 now incorporates all features of claims 13 and 14 pending as of the Non-Final Office Action dated February 8, 2005. In that Office Action, the Examiner indicated that such combination defines allowable subject matter. *See Non-Final Office Action dated February 8, 2005, item 8.* Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 13 is allowable.

Claims 15, 18, 19 and 20 all depend from independent claim 13. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 15, 18, 19 and 20 are also allowable for at least due to the dependency thereon.

Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 13, 15, 18, 19 and 20 be withdrawn.

ALLOWABLE CLAIMS

Claims 16, 17 and 24 depend from independent claim 13. Thus, in addition to their own merits as acknowledged by the Examiner, these claims are also allowable due to their dependency from allowable independent claim 13. Applicant respectfully requests that claims 16, 17 and 24 be allowed.

CONCLUSION

All objections and rejections raised in the Office Action having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved, the Examiner is respectfully requested to

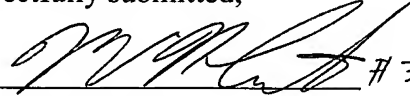
contact Hyung Sohn (Reg. No. 44,346), to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17 and 1.136(a), Applicant respectfully petitions for a one (1) month extension of time for filing a Reply in connection with the present application, and the required fee attached hereto.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02 2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

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